

# Official indoor base ball guide containing the constitution, 1925-1926

## SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE 1925-26

&slpII I I'

as -- e 'e A

\r; . f ,1 4i h - i3 " . t 6 - -

, , 1

.- - I ..... ..\_...; . . .1.-i... . ^.. :: 1.....?..\_ . \_ f- id ( - \*- ' I\*\*\*\* 4 s? ;K+;l'eJi t13|er'i ; '

## Official Indoor Base Ball Rules

riii :.i ?I r a 1 i I --:i 1 ,r --i \i :: 1 I I ii tS

## Introduction

. '- - - - - " 1-:1 A ;-'V,\_, - "\_,!!V, - , . .O; 1 ,, , . -

## Origin of Indoor Base Ball

... i.' ~.....I " -" . .' -:.. ut~-.' ' ' ~ r.,'i ' -:~ '

## Hancock's Indoor Base Ball Rules

I; ' ; '

12:t>: W zwse red Plies sAt<\xt l eve

i 11 :: 'i e 1

5~a SPALDING'S ATHLETIC LIBRARY. (a) If the required number of players to constitute a team fail to appear upon the field, or being upon the field fails to begin the game within one minute after the umpire has called "play" at the hour appointed for the beginning of, the game, unless such delay in appearing or in commencing the game be unavoidable. (b) If, after the game has begun, one side refuses or fails to continue playing, unless such game has been suspended or terminated by the umpire. RULE X. SUBSTITUTES. The base-runner shall not have a substitute run for him except by the consent of the captains of the contesting teams. RULE XI. CHOICE OF INNINGS. The choice of innings shall be decided by flipping a coin. RULE XII. GOOD AND BAD BALLS. A ball legally delivered by the pitcher which passes over any part of the home base not lower than the batsman's knee nor higher than his shoulder is a good ball. Otherwise it is a bad ball. It being assumed that the batter is standing erect while in his position. RULE XIII. t BALKS. . A motion to deliver the ball by the pitcher without his doing so, or holding the ball so long as to unnecessarily delay the game, constitutes a balk. Penalty: One ball to be called. NOTE.-If the pitcher swings his arm or makes any other motion to deliver the ball without doing so, it constitutes a balk. This applies only when the pitcher is in the pitcher's box.

SPALDING'S ATHLETIC LIBRARY. RULE XIV. ILLEGAL BALLS. A BALL DELIVERED BY THE PITCHER WITH ANY PART OF HIS PERSON OUT OF THE BOX, OR IF THE PITCHER FAILS TO HEEL THE BACK LINE OF THE PITCHER'S BOX WITH BOTH FEET PRIOR TO PITCHING THE BALL, OR IF HE TAKES MORE THAN ONE STEP IN THE ACT OF DELIVERY. ,s; ' WHEN THE GAME IS PLAYED UNDER ARMORY RULE, AN ILLEGAL PITCH SHALL BE DECLARED IF THE PITCHER DOES NOT HEEL THE IS-INCH LINE. AN ILLEGAL PITCH ENTITLES ANY BASE-RUNNER OR BATSMAN TO A BASE. RULE XV. DEAD BALLS. Any pitched ball striking the batter is a dead ball, but does not entitle him to a base. If a batter intentionally gets in the way or interferes with any

## Library of Congress

legally delivered ball a strike shall be called. If it should be the third strike the batter is out, and no base can be run on that ball. RULE XVI. NOT IN PLAY. In case of an illegal hit, foul hit ball not legally caught out, dead ball, or base-runner put out for being struck by a fair hit ball, the ball shall not be considered in play until it is held by the pitcher standing in his box. NOTE.-Any player other than the pitcher receiving the ball and standing in the pitcher's position cannot put the ball in play. ,4i;~ ~RULE XVII. BLOCK BALLS. -: A block ball is a batted or thrown ball that is stopped or handled by any person not engaged in the game. (a) Whenever a block occurs, base-runners may run the bases without being put out, until the ball has been returned to and held by the pitcher standing in his box. (b) In the case of a block, if a person not engaged in the game should retain possession of the ball, or throw or kick it

I

~v-- . . . . - .....:- .....\*-- . . :- ... ---^-- ----. - ..^ ,-- ^ ^,^^.^^ / ' , ' ' , - . 12

SPALDING'S ATHLETIC LIBRARY. (c) Instantly after three strikes. (d) Instantly after the umpire declares an illegal delivery of a ball by the pitcher. RULE XXIV. ' -- BASES TO BE TOUCHED. The base-runner must touch each base in regular order, viz., First, second, third and home base; but when obliged to return may go directly to the base which he legally holds. RULE XXV. \*Iz ~1~ ~ ENTITLED TO BASES. The base-runner shall be entitled, without being put out, to take one base in the following cases: (a) If, while he was batsman, the umpire called four balls. (b) If the umpire awards a succeeding batsman a base on four balls or in case of an illegal delivery and the base-runner is thereby forced to vacate the base held by him. (c) If the umpire calls a "balk" or "illegal pitch." NOTE.-Batsman is entitled to first base on an illegal pitch but not on a balk. (d) If a ball delivered by the pitcher pass the catcher or is fumbled, only one base may be taken, provided the runner makes : it, unless it is a third strike or fourth ball, when the runner is entitled to all he can get. (e) If the pitcher does not give him time to return to his base. (f) If, upon a fair hit, the ball strikes the person or clothing of the umpire on fair ground. (g) If he be

## Library of Congress

prevented from making a base by the obstruction of an adversary, unless such adversary has the ball in his possession. (h) If, when he was batsman, the pitcher delivered an "illegal ball." (i) On a fair or foul fly ball caught the base-runner can advance, provided he does not leave his base until after the ball is caught. This does not exempt the runner from being put out. . - ; . - " v \* ' . ' : \* \* a ' ' ! \* ' ! . ! 1.1' . : ! ' d : ! ^ " ' & \* \* \* " - ' : ' !

i ' \_1.1-1 ' , 41-1 1,,,,,% , 11 .1

- - - - - ` ' " - "

16 SPALDING'S ATHLETIC LIBRARY. (c) A line shall be drawn four feet from first and third base towards the home base and four feet out from the base line which shall be known as the coachers' box. The coachers must stand back of this line, and will not be allowed to take a position anywhere other than the coachers' box, as defined above. RULE XXXII. SUITABLE SHOES. Only shoes with rubber soles or other soft material shall be used, and in all league games teams must be fully uniformed. - RULE XXXIII. PITCHER MUST WAIT. When a base-runner is legally entitled to return to a base, the pitcher must wait a reasonable time for him to reach the base, on penalty of giving the base-runner another base for violation. RULE XXXIV. UMPIRES. (a) The umpires are masters of the field from the commencement to the termination of the game, and are entitled to the respect of the spectators, and any person offering any insult or injury to either of them must be promptly ejected from the room by those in charge. (b) The umpires must ascertain from the captains of both clubs whether or not there are any special ground rules to be enforced, and if there are, it is their duty to see that these special rules are strictly enforced. (c) The umpires must compel the players to observe the provisions of the playing rules, and are hereby invested with the authority to order any player to do, or omit, any act as they may deem necessary to give force and effect to any and all of such provisions.

## Library of Congress

M\* -, - - - .. ` 1u - -i \_\_, " 7: 7" - . . - - - - .

u o

I 11 I I

### Implements of the Game

1, E ; -lr , l'Lh 'fL(l\_

### Official Playground Ball Rules

,i f

"l~-Y~---^~\_

-e-i~::~ ~ SPALDING'S ATHLETIC LIBRARY. 25 ~:~; RULE XII. GOOD AND BAD BALLS. )<., A ball, legally delivered by the pitcher, which passes over any part ':-.. of the home plate, not lower than the batsman's knees nor higher than ::i ^his shoulders, is a good ball. Any other ball delivered to the batsman ::a is a bad ball, it being assumed that the batter is standing in an erect position. RULE XIII. ~',,,.li:~::~ 'BALKS. 1, . A motion by the pitcher to deliver the ball, without his doing so, or holding the ball so long as to unnecessarily delay the game, con- - v^.-. ~ stitutes a balk. RULE XIV. ;7~::~. :~::~' - ILLEGAL BALLS. .f~: -Preliminary to pitching, the pitcher shall take his position facing \*:: : . the batsman, with both feet on the pitcher's plate,. and in the act of delivering the ball to the bat shall keep one foot in contact with the pitcher's plate, as defined in Rule VI. He shall not raise either foot until in the act of delivering the ball to the Lc-t, nor take more than , ' . + one step in such delivery. RULE XV. DEAD BALL. ' . :. Any pitched ball striking the batter is a dead ball, but does not entitle him to a base. If the batter intentionally gets in the way of /(:- , or interferes with any legally delivered ball, a strike shall be called. If it

## Library of Congress

should be the third strike, the batter is out, and no base can be . .... run on that ball. is|  
y , ' ; . ~ ~ ^ RULE XVI. . 1i^ii':~ -'~ ~NOT IN PLAY. ;\*~:. - In case of a foul strike, foul hit  
ball not legally caught out, dead ball, or base runner put out for being struck by a fair hit  
ball, the ball shall not be considered in play until it is in. the hands of the pitcher ^,;, ,  
standing in his box. ; ~i;,- <- - RULE XVII. \*,!'~^ ~~-i, ~BLOCK BALLS. .^ .: ~ A block ball  
is a batted or thrown ball that is stopped or handle\(-i .! , by any person not engaged in  
the game. .:;,\ (a) Whenever a block occurs, the umpire shall declare it; base ;5).V^>. -  
runners shall not be allowed to run the bases, but must stop at the 1... . last base touched  
until the ball has been, returned to the pitcher and : >. the umpire calls "Play." (b) Special  
ground rules may be made allowing a certain number v a:< ~ of bases on a fair hit into the  
crowd (or a thrown ball) in which case :':' . the above sections are void. RULE XVIII. -:':<  
~ ~T -THE SCORING OF RUNS. One run shall be scored every time a base runner, after  
having legally touched the first three bases, reaches the home plate before three . /;:, < , .  
men are put out. If the third man is forced out, or is put out before reaching legal base, a  
run shall not be scored. .. / ~:~() < ... , . . ,

i.

1. I

28 SPALDING'S ATHLETIC LIBRARY. RULE XXVIII. . A BASE RUNNER IS OUT. (a) If,  
having made a fair hit, while batsman, such fair hit ball be held by a fielder before touching  
the ground. (b) If he intentionally or otherwise kicks or interferes with a fair ball he has  
just batted.' (c) After three strikes have been called. '(d) If, after a fair hit, he is touched  
with the ball in the hands of a fielder before such base runner touches the legal base. (e)  
If, after a fair hit, the ball be securely held by a fielder while touching the legal base with  
any part of his person, before such base runner touches the legal base. (f) If, in running  
from first to second base, or from second to '1 thirO base, he runs more than three feet  
from a direct line between, such oases to avoid being touched by a ball in the hands of a  
fielder; but in case a fielder be occupying a base runner's proper path, attempting to field

## Library of Congress

a batted ball, the base runner shall run out of the path and shall not be declared out for so doing. (g) If he fails to avoid a fielder attempting to field a batted ball, or if he in any way obstructs a fielder attempting to field a batted ball, or intentionally interferes with a thrown ball. (h) If, at any time, while the ball is in play, he be touched by the: ball in the hands of a fielder, unless some part of his person is touch- . ing a base he is entitled to occupy, provided the ball is held by, the ; fielder after touching him. But in running to the first legal base, he may overrun said base without being put out for being off said base, : after first touching it, provided he returns at once and. retouches the base, after which he may be put out as at any other base. If in over- running the first legal base, he also attempts to run to second base, he shall forfeit such exemption from being put out. (i) If when a fair or foul fly is legally caught, such ball is legally held by a fielder on a base occupied by the base runner when such ball ; ! was struck, or the base runner be touched with the ball in the hands of a fielder, before he retouches said base after such fair or foul hit<sup>1</sup> ball was so caught. . (j) If a fair hit ball strikes him before touching a fielder, except when a runner is holding a base he is legally entitled to, and in such . case no base shall be run unless forced by the batsman becoming a base runner, and no run shall be scored. (k) If he fails to touch the intervening base, or bases in legal order. He may be put out at the base he fails to touch by a fielder holding the ball on said base, in the same manner as running to the . legal base. RULE XXIX. TURN EITHER WAY. In returning to first legal base, after overrunning, the base runner ,::; may turn either way. . RULE XXX.- COACHING. The coaches are restricted to coaching base runners only, and are not allowed to address any remarks to any players except base run- ners, and then only in words of necessary direction. Only members of team can act as coaches. :.. - - ....

- " a ' ' " . " i n ' ' ~ - l " . ' - " .. it' . ' ' - " " i' - : : \_ ' \_ . t : : \_ ~ : \_\_\_\_\_ : . t \_\_\_\_\_ " \_ : \_ . \_ ok \_ : \_ ..... \_ \_ . ' \_ \_ ..... , . " } d ' \_ ' ' ' . ' A " " a " . ' - ZY ,

. ' "% lil, i B l' l' ` ; -, i r jL 1 . ... 'ib :r, ln .r

### Classified Rules for Indoor Base Ball

## SPALDING'S ATHLETIC LIBRARY. 81 Classified Rules for Indoor Base Ball

**DEFINITIONS.** ~i <!, '~ Base Line.-Direct line between home and first, first and second, second and third, and third and home. Good Ball.-One legally delivered by pitcher, over the plate, and between the knees and shoulders of the batter. ~; ~Bad Ball.-Not over plate. between knees and shoulders of batter. Fair Ball.-Batted ball striking within diamond or on foul line. " Foul Ball.-Batted ball striking outside foul line. Foul Tip.-Foul ball hit by batter not higher than his head. Illegal Ball.-Sent to batter by pitcher not entirely in box, or by pitcher not heeling line with both feet prior to delivery, or if pitcher takes more than one step in delivery. Dead Ball.-Pitched ball striking batter. Balk.-Motion by pitcher to deliver. or holding to delay. Block Ball.-Batted or thrown ball stopped or held by outsider. Illegal Hit.-Fair hit ball batted when any part of batsman is upon ground outside his box. Not in Play.-After an illegal hit, foul hit ball not caught, dead ball or base runner struck by a fair hit ball, the 'ball is not in play until held by the pitcher in his box. Shall be called for-- STRIKES. (1) Ball struck at and not' hit. (2) Good ball legally delivered, not struck at. (3) Foul tip caught. (4) Batter intentionally interfering with legally delivered good "i ball. !(- (5) First foul ball hit before first strike. A. Batter is out- OUTS. (1) On third strike caught before touching ground or any object. ;(2) If hit by ball on third strike. (3) On third strike, if man on first and less than two outs. (4) If third strike is made by intentional interference with ball. (5) If after two strikes, a foul ball hits the batter before touching floor, wall or fixture. (6) On an illegal hit. .; ~~ Y(7) If he bats out of turn and makes a fair hit, or reaches first, provided error is discovered before ball is pitched to next batter. \*: : ; (8) If not in position one minute, after he is called to bat by umpire. :b.? ' (9) On attempt to hinder catcher's fielding, or intentional foul hitting. B. Base runner is out- I. .Referring to man who has just batted. (1) If fielder legally holds ball on first base before runner arrives, B \*e ^ ^ W ^ ^^^^ ^ ^ ^ , .-i" ^ ^ .r.:Y::J .-:: ^..... i .A ^ .^ \*^ ^ ^ j^

"L'ail



~~~~~ SPALDING'S ATHLETIC LIBRARY. 33 (8) On a block ball, till ball is returned to pitcher in his box, unless time is called by the umpire. (9) One base if umpire is struck by ball thrown by catcher to intercept base runner. C. Base runner cannot advance- (1) While pitcher is in box with ball. ' H\*^ ~ (2) When pitcher is ready to deliver ball to batter. () Until after a pitched ball reaches or passes catcher. (4) On dead ball (neither can batter). (5) If touched by fair hit ball while on his own base, unless forced. (6) If any base runner is hit by fair hit ball, unless forced. , %?r\* ~ (7) If batter intentionally interfered with pitched ball. (8) If batter interferes with catcher's fielding. (9) If batsman, in going to first, is hit by foul or fair fly before it touches wall, floor, fielder or fixture. (10) If a foul tip bounding off catcher is not caught by a fielder. (11) After time is called on a "block." D. Base runner must return to base and can do so without being put out- (1) On foul hit not caught. (2) On an illegal hit. (3) If called back for starting too soon. (4) On batter's interference with catcher's fielding. (5) If batsman in going to first is hit by foul or fair fly. E. Referring to Runs and Scoring- (1) One run is to be scored every time a base runner, after having legally touched the first three bases, shall touch home before three men are put out. ' (2) No run counted.-coming in on a third man "forced out," or put out at first. 1 (3) Runner is safe if touching bag or spot where bag should be. Likewise with home plate. (4) Runner may overrun first base, but must turn away from i second in so doing. Can return either way. (5) If he slides with bag and stops, must return with bag, as in overrunning first, before going on. (6) Unless forced, no run to be scored if a man on base is hit by a batted ball. GENERAL RULES. 5 (1) The umpire shall not make a decision in regard to a pre- mature start until base runner has reached the next . \* base or is put out. (2) Coachers restricted to coaching base runners only. No, coacher allowed when bases are unoccupied; only one when one base and never more than two when more bases are occupied. (3) Coachers must remain four feet from base lines between 4 home and first and home and third and from first and third bases. A.. .... ./ ... - -

## Organization of Leagues

## Library of Congress

i l, . : - A '!, 'i, ~"~, \_ :f .- " ;

### Playground "Kitten" Ball

i i;l

### Rules and Regulations Governing Playground "Kitten" Ball

,Z'

l i l 1 l

### Official Playground "Kitten" Ball Rules

- N \_----- ;Ssl --. - Ed -- -GO U. -n -a -..... I .i d - - ~\_ -. ' . .11-S\_-\_\_ l .1 C\_- r l

l,; : l l 4bl"l-"?~,~L:,~---~.''

-1 1. l - ~\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ - - \_ -, \_ \_ \_ . , - - - - - - - - - , - - - - - , - - - - - , - - - - - , \_ \_ - - -  
- l - 7 - , , -

l i ,) -": r ;

rsfffpae f.,.lel5'IFtSh':s9tfi Add. ttEl: jf;2;Lit. S twA. S., Eal:4La2' fig:,! &. .

44

45

1K4 SPALDING'S ATHLETIC LIBRARY. . ':, D ' RULE 29. 'i ' ' " A run shall be scored each time a base runner, after having - successfully touched each base in order, touches home plate ac- :i cording to all preceding rules. A run can be scored only on a hit or a play. No run can be ' ' scored on a throw back. The runner is safe if he touches the bag or the spot

## Library of Congress

where the bag should be, should the bag be ^' detached. RULE 30. '\*^ '? ' Spiked or hard shoes are strictly prohibited, thus eliminating all danger from that source. I . ' ' ' . \* .fl -RULE 31. SCORING: In order to promote uniformity in scoring, the ' i'f iollowing suggestions and definitions are made for the benefit of the scorers: SEC. 1. The first item in the tabulated score, after the player's name and position, shall be the number of times he has been at " " ' 'bat during the game. No time at bat shall be scored if the batsman be given legal base on called balls or an illegal delivery ' ~:: of the ball by the pitcher. ! | SEC. 2. In the second column shall be set down the number of hits made by each player. | ' A hit shall be scored in the following cases: ;? 1'; When the ball from the bat hits the ground within the foul lines and out of reach of the fielders. When a hit ball is partially or wholly stopped by a fielder in motion, but such player can not recover himself in time to handle the ball before the batter reaches first legal base. When a ball is hit with such force to a fielder that he cannot handle it in time to put out the batsman. When a base runner is retired by being hit by a batted ball, ' the batsman shall be credited with a hit. Af ^SSEC. 3. In the third column shall be set down the number of , ,:runs made by each player during the game. i. ^SEC. 4. In the fourth column shall be set down the number of opponents put out by each player. When a batsman is called out for a foul strike, or when he fails to bat in proper order, the put '-: out shall be scored to the catcher. In all cases of outs or inter- '| ference for running out of line, the put out shall be credited to the player who would have made the play, but for the action of the base runner or batsman. ;?.'. 1' : -' \*i. ?\*ii 1 .!! ! '-/ \* . ;

1T a: i : i. . l'i, -r 3 '1

r. t.' ;l i - 1\_L\_-;

### "Serve Us" Ball

\ic: . 9 l -YW- ?i ' ;i, i-. -.t... l :.\_l;:r.. . ....li. \_;1-. 11 (4\_ \_----

F' i i d lrra . .: . rll: i t -:C h ' , , ri/: i i\*3:art.; ; -,1 ,

## Library of Congress

" July,, I" ,

r .

### Official "Serve Us" Ball Rules

,^c'" a'- r^,\* u^i.; t':. v':.' l\*': .

, ' ,;\* -' '(iJ '\ :: i~iit .ib A\:\'.;V -1 i

--- s . , -- , ! - ;' " -- \_ . F ,l, .Y, c ;' - : a .1 ;' - . l lil, l l's l '.i-li .\_ Yll- via

### Constitution of the National Indoor Base Ball Association of the United States

66

12, i:l :s. ...,l )

v

. 11 Al . vli l

f

i- l l - - -t ' - L Z - - ' - -1 --